

REMARKS

At the time of the Office Action dated May 12, 2004, claims 1-10 were pending. Applicant acknowledges, with appreciation, the Examiner's allowance of claims 1-4 and 6-8. Applicants also acknowledge, with appreciation, the Examiner's indication that claims 5, 9 and 10 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

In this Amendment, Fig. 2 of the drawings and the specification have been amended in a manner suggested by the Examiner (see paragraphs 3 and 4 of the Office Action). Accordingly, Applicant respectfully solicits withdrawal of the objections to the drawings and the specification.

Claims 5, 9 and 10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. The Examiner pointed out that there is insufficient antecedent basis for the limitation "the bit line" in claim 5, and there appears to be some missing elements in claim 9. In response, Applicant has amended claims 5 and 9 for clarification. It is noted that adequate descriptive support for the amendment of claim 9 can be found on, for example, page 24, line 26 to page 27, line 14 of the specification. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully solicits the rejection of claims 5, 9 and 10.

Therefore, it is urged that the application is in condition for allowance, an indication of which is respectfully solicited. If there are any outstanding issues that might be resolved by an interview or an Examiner's amendment, Examiner is requested to call Applicant's attorney at the telephone number shown below.

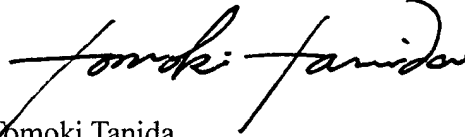
It is also noted that Applicant found a typographical error in the filing receipt of this application. Applicant will separately request for correction of the error.

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To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

MCDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tomoki Tanida", written over a horizontal line.

Tomoki Tanida

Recognition under 37 C.F.R. 10.9(b)

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Date: August 11, 2004

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FIG.2

